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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

13 December 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Nuclear Weapons Allocation Section for NIE 11-2-58,
THE SOVIET NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM

1. In accordance with the instructions of the IAC (IAC-M-300, paragraph 5, 30 July 1957) a Working Group of your representatives continued work during August and September on a Part II draft for NIE 11-2-57, the March 1957 estimate on the Soviet nuclear program. Early in October, this work was suspended as it became clear from the progress of NIE 11-4-57 and the GMIC and JAEIC contributions to this estimate and to NIE 11-10-57 that there were sure to be substantial changes in the estimates both of nuclear weapon development dates and of development and production dates for major delivery systems.


2. The Board of National Estimates and the Chairman, JAEIC, now believe that every effort should be made to complete a section on nuclear weapon allocation for inclusion in the forthcoming new estimate on the Soviet nuclear energy program, NIE 11-2-58, now

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scheduled to reach the IAC in mid-January. We recognize that there may remain disagreement over the scope of such an allocation, but we believe that (a) this disagreement can best be resolved in the light of an actual draft reflecting the different viewpoints, and (b) that the Working Group is in a position to adapt its past work to present such a draft, probably concurrently with the submission of the basic estimate to the IAC.

3. Accordingly, we recommend that the IAC direct that the Working Group continue its work and prepare to submit a draft (reflecting the various scope alternatives), in the light of the proposed conclusions of NIE 11-2-58 as to the supply of fissionable materials and weapons types, as nearly concurrently as possible with the completion of the balance of NIE 11-2-58.


WILLIAM P. BUNDY
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